

(12) INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(19) World Intellectual Property
Organization
International Bureau



(43) International Publication Date
11 November 2004 (11.11.2004)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number
WO 2004/096711 A1

(51) International Patent Classification⁷: **C01G 3/02**,
C22B 3/02, 3/46, 15/00, F28D 21/00

(21) International Application Number:
PCT/US2003/008459

(22) International Filing Date: 27 March 2003 (27.03.2003)

(25) Filing Language: English

(26) Publication Language: English

(71) Applicants and

(72) Inventors: **WU, Hsieh, Sen** [—/—]; 5 Fl., No. 22, Lane 271, Sec. 1, Beishin Road, Shindian City, Taipei 231 (TW). **CHEN, Chung, Chin** [US/US]; 625 Slaters Lane, 4th floor, Alexandria, VA 22314 (US).

(74) Agents: **FICHTER, Richard, E.** et al.; Bacon & Thomas, PLLC, 625 Slaters Lane, 4th Floor, Alexandria, VA 22314 (US).

(81) Designated States (*national*): AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW.

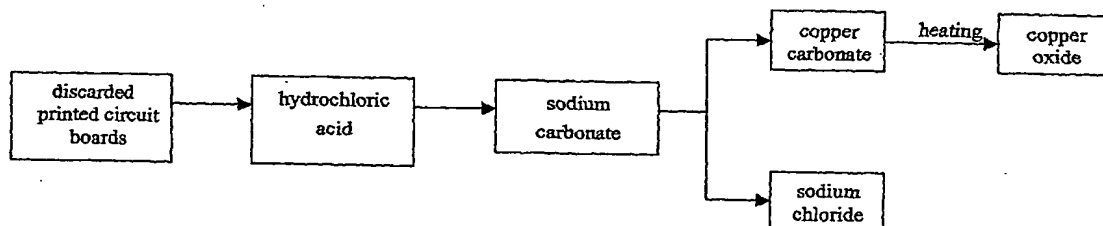
(84) Designated States (*regional*): ARIPO patent (GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

Published:

— with international search report

For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.

(54) Title: METHODS AND DEVICES FOR RECYCLING COPPER FROM A DISCARDED CIRCUIT BOARD AND A DISCARDED FLUID CONTAINING COPPER



(57) Abstract: An eco-friendly method is designed to recycle copper contained in the discarded printed circuit boards and the like. The method involves use of various acids, such as hydrochloric acid, sulphuric acid, oxalic acid, to bring about the ionization of the copper, thereby resulting in formation of copper-containing solutions. The copper is brought back in the form of copper oxide or copper powder by use of various reducing agents. All byproducts produced in the course of recycling the copper are useful for other industrial applications.